



**MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION**

PO Box 1370

Jefferson City, MO 65102

[www.mec.mo.gov](http://www.mec.mo.gov)

(573) 751-2020 / (800) 392-8660

James Klahr

Executive Director

November 4, 2016

Stephen Hill, Treasurer  
Jobs and Opportunity  
1225 Eye Street NW Ste 1100  
Washington DC 20005

Re: File No. 16-0089-I

Dear Mr. Hill:

The Missouri Ethics Commission considered the complaint filed against Jobs and Opportunity at its November 2, 2016 meeting. The Commission reviewed the allegation that the Respondent made expenditures to support a candidate for Missouri Governor, Chris Koster, without either registering as a committee with MEC or filing necessary disclosure reports with MEC.

Staff review of the complaint determined that, on July 22, 2016, Jobs and Opportunity registered with the FEC as a Political Action Committee and checked the box indicating it supports/opposes more than one Federal candidate, and is NOT a separate segregated fund or party committee (i.e. nonconnected committee). Jobs and Opportunity listed its address as 1225 Eye Street NW, Suite 1100, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Section 130.049, RSMo, provides:

An out-of-state committee which according to the provisions of subsection 10 of section 130.021 is not required to file a statement of organization and is not required to file the full disclosure reports required by section 130.041 shall file reports with the Missouri ethics commission according to the provisions of such sections if the committee makes contributions or expenditures in support of or in opposition to candidates or ballot measures in this state in any election covered by this chapter or makes contributions to any committee domiciled in this state. An initial report shall be filed no later than fourteen days prior to the date such out-of-state committee first makes a contribution or expenditure in this state. Such initial report shall state the name and address of the committee receiving such contributions or expenditures. The contributions or expenditures shall be made no later than thirty days prior to the election. The out-of-state committee thereafter shall file copies of the campaign disclosure report required to be filed in the domicile of the committee with the Missouri ethics commission as required by subsections 1 to 3 of section 130.046. No candidate or committee may accept any contribution made by a committee domiciled outside this state unless the provisions of this section are met.

Because Section 130.049 makes reference to Section 130.021.10, RSMo, that provision is provided below:

10. A committee domiciled outside this state shall be required to file a statement of committee organization and appoint a treasurer residing in this state and open an account in a depository within this state; provided that either of the following conditions



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prevails:

- (1) The aggregate of all contributions received from persons domiciled in this state exceeds twenty percent in total dollar amount of all funds received by the committee in the preceding twelve months; or
- (2) The aggregate of all contributions and expenditure [sic] made to support or oppose candidates and ballot measures in this state exceeds one thousand five hundred dollars in the current calendar year.

Jobs and Opportunity filed its October Quarterly with the FEC on October 14, 2016 and filed an amended October Quarterly on October 26, 2016. Between July 25, 2016 and August 3, 2016, Jobs and Opportunity made just over \$1 million in in-kind contributions to Koster for Missouri.<sup>1</sup> Koster for Missouri reported the contributions as required by law. In its October Quarterly filed with the FEC, Jobs and Opportunity reported these expenditures and identified the expenditures as media expenditures associated to Koster for Missouri.

Jobs and Opportunity does not fit within the scope of Section 130.049, RSMo, because, reading the first sentence of that section, Section 130.049 only applies if the committee **would not be required** to file a Statement of Committee Organization because its level of contributions or expenditures is less than the amounts set out in Section 130.021.10. As noted above, Jobs and Opportunity's activity exceeded \$1,500.

Jobs and Opportunity is registered with FEC as a Political Action Committee. Federal law defines a "political committee" to include a committee that receives contributions aggregating in excess of \$1,000 during a calendar year or which makes expenditures aggregating in excess of \$1,000 during a calendar year.

MEC determined that Jobs and Opportunity, as a committee registered with the FEC, is not required to separately register as a committee and file campaign finance reports with MEC. It has filed its reports with FEC which are accessible to the public on the FEC website. MEC provides a link to the FEC website for those wanting to see the activity of federal committees.

From the facts presented, the Commission finds no reasonable grounds exist to support a violation of Chapter 130, RSMo, and is dismissing the complaint.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Klahr".

James Klahr

Executive Director

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<sup>1</sup> An in-kind contribution is a contribution in a form other than money (See Sec. 130.011(19), RSMo).